

**CITY OF BELLEVUE
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday
April 10, 2012
6:00 p.m.

Conference Room 1E-113
Bellevue City Hall
Bellevue, Washington

BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Robinson, Boardmembers Evans, Heath, Powell, Van Hollebeke

BOARDMEMBERS ABSENT: Vice-Chair Grindeland, Boardmember George

PARKS STAFF PRESENT: Patrick Foran, Nancy Harvey, Glenn Kost, Shelley McVein, Lorrie Peterson, Terry Smith

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Kasner

MINUTES TAKER: Michelle Cash

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Robinson at 6:03 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion by Boardmember Van Hollebeke and second by Boardmember Evans to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion by Boardmember Van Hollebeke and second by Boardmember Evans to approve the March 13, 2012 regular meeting minutes of the Parks & Community Services Board as presented. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

4. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Steve Kasner, 1015 – 145th Pl. SE, Bellevue, WA
East Bellevue Community Council

On May 1, 2012, the Parks Department will be testifying at the East Bellevue Community Council meeting regarding Airfield Park and Robinswood Park. Mr. Kasner invited all

Boardmembers to attend the public hearing. Mr. Kasner implored the Board to be well prepared and deeply reasoned to preserve CIP funding. In addition, Mr. Kasner asked the Board to consider improvements and expansion for Robinswood Tennis Center.

Mr. Kasner distributed an Annexation History map to Boardmembers. He encouraged Boardmembers to capture the historical value of the parks system.

5. **CHAIR COMMUNICATION:**

Mr. Foran provided an overview of the recent Planning Commission meeting that Parks staff and Boardmembers attended regarding the Shoreline Master Program (SMP), which is an update of the regulatory framework. There is also a particular focus on how the SMP relates to the approved Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan.

Mr. Foran explained that the Planning Commission wanted the Park Board's presence at the meeting. Chair Robinson tried to contact the Planning Commission Chair but was unsuccessful in obtaining a context beyond the Planning Commission's minutes from their previous meeting. Therefore, staff provided Chair Robinson information regarding SMP and the Planning Commission's interest in the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan.

At the Planning Commission meeting, Chair Robinson provided a broad overview of the Park Board's viewpoints, the ongoing public process that must be adhered to throughout the implementation of the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan, and staff offered to provide technical input if Commissioners were interested.

Boardmember Van Hollebeke felt that the nature of the Planning Commission's request and the timeframe for the request was clearly outside of normal protocol for communications between boards. Boardmember Van Hollebeke is supportive of cross-group collaboration but was frustrated at the way the Planning Commission's request took place and the timing of the issue. He suggested that a request be made to the Planning Commission to make their requests timely and formally.

Chair Robinson expressed her concern because the Planning Commission was trying to make decisions with erroneous information. She suggested that the Planning Commission provide a list of questions that they would like answered and then have Parks staff respond to the questions. In addition, she suggested that when a Board or Commission wants to consult with another Board or Commission, the Chair extend the invitation to the fellow Chair.

Motion by Boardmember Van Hollebeke and second by Boardmember Powell to send a letter to the Planning Commission to articulate the Park Board's willingness to work with the Planning Commission to address their questions.

Boardmember Powell agreed with Chair Robinson and took offense to the comments made during the Planning Commission meeting regarding the lack of public outreach for the Meydenbauer Bay Master Plan process. Boardmember Powell felt there was a significant

amount of public outreach and exchange of information between staff and citizens. She felt that the outreach was conducted at a high caliber. In addition to the letter referenced above, Boardmember Powell suggested that a summary of the outreach meetings and data be provided to the Planning Commission.

Mr. Foran explained that there are over three years of data from the public outreach meetings. However, the time and energy it would take staff to tabulate three years of records would be costly. The original memo that was sent to Planning Commission included public outreach information. In addition, Mr. Foran explained that the Implementation Principles that several City Councilmembers negotiated with the Meydenbauer Neighborhood Association, were imbedded in the Meydenbauer Bay Master Plan. These principles required a public outreach process.

In regards to the proposed letter for the Planning Commission, Boardmember Heath asked the following questions:

- What is the SMP, as it applies to Parks?
- What is the effectiveness of the communication?
- What is the Park Board's relationship with the Planning Commission?

Boardmember Heath viewed the Planning Commission meeting as unfocused.

Boardmember Evans felt that the Planning Commission meeting was a battle between the Park Board and the Meydenbauer Neighborhood Association, not between the Planning Commission and Park Board. Boardmember Evans suggested that Park Boardmembers and/or staff regularly attend the Planning Commission meetings to ensure the Parks & Community Services viewpoints are heard.

Chair Robinson explained that the Meydenbauer Neighborhood Association attended all of the public hearings held throughout the master planning process and had multiple opportunities to represent themselves and be heard. Chair Robinson took their concerns into consideration during her thought process and respects the Association's viewpoints. She explained that she was requested to attend the Planning Commission meeting not knowing the capacity for her attendance or the topic for the presentation. She wants to recognize that there are better ways to foster communication between Boards. Chair Robinson welcomes an open dialogue with the Planning Commission in a constructive manner.

Boardmember Evans feels that the Park Board is caught in the middle between the Planning Commission and Planning staff. However, he does not feel this is the case with the Parks Department and Board.

At the question, motion carried unanimously (5-0) to direct staff to prepare a letter to be sent to the Planning Commission. Boardmembers will review the letter, prior to sending.

6. **BOARD COMMUNICATION:**

Boardmember Heath made the following report:

- Visited Highland Park.
- Visited Bellevue Botanical Garden.
- Attended the Planning Commission meeting.
- Attended the Bridle Trails community meeting for the future neighborhood parks.

Boardmember Powell made the following report:

- Visited dog area at Robinswood Park.
- Attended the Planning Commission meeting.

Boardmember Evans made the following report:

- Monitored Weowna Beach Park access, since it was utilized as a staging area for equipment being used to repair West Lake Sammamish Parkway.
- Attended the Planning Commission meeting.

Boardmember Van Hollebeke made the following report:

- Visited Downtown Park.
- Visited Meydenbauer Beach Park.

Chair Robinson made the following report:

- Attended the Planning Commission meeting.
- Visited the Meydenbauer Bay waterfront.

7. **CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION:**

None.

8. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Mr. Foran made the following report:

- An email was forwarded to Park Boardmembers regarding a recent *Travel Rider's* article. Visit Bellevue is an initiative that the Meydenbauer Center staff created to promote Bellevue as a leisure destination location.
- The Cultural Diversity Plan has reached the first phase of completion. This plan will be on a future Park Board meeting agenda.
- The city conducted a statistically valid survey pertaining to the budget. Bellevue had extremely high rankings. Boardmembers are encouraged to read the survey.
- Thank you to Boardmembers—April is Volunteer Recognition Month.

- Bellevue Youth Link conducted an evaluation of the program. Results from this evaluation will be presented to Council and will be added to a future Park Board meeting agenda.

9. **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:**

A. 2013-2014 Budget Update

Mr. Foran explained that the budget is one of the City's key policy documents. The process for developing the 2013-2014 Operating Budget and 2013-2019 CIP, known as "Budget One," aligns the City's operating and capital budgets with outcomes valued by the community and endorsed by Council. City Council recently identified seven community outcomes, which form the basis for developing the City budget:

- Safe Community
- Improved Mobility
- Healthy & Sustainable Environment
- Economic Growth & Competitiveness
- Innovative, Vibrant & Caring Community
- Quality Neighborhoods
- Responsive Government

Mr. Kost reviewed the status of the Parks capital program and identifying projects for possible inclusion in the 2013-2019 CIP. Projects include:

- Synthetic Sportsfields – Wilburton & Newport Hills
- Park Acquisition
- Nature Trails (including King County funding)
- Lewis Creek Picnic Area
- Botanical Garden
 - Ravine Garden
 - Visitor Center
- Youth Theatre in Crossroads Park
- Surrey Downs Park Development
- Bridle Trails Neighborhood Park
- Downtown Park Development
- Airfield Park Development
- Park Renovation
- Park Planning & Design

Boardmembers requested that access to Surrey Downs Park be made available from 112th Avenue Southeast. In addition, Boardmembers advised that the current appropriations for Surrey Downs may not be sufficient.

Boardmember Van Hollebeke suggested that the planning phase for Surrey Downs Development be postponed so other projects can begin earlier in the process. He called attention to page 11 in

the Board packet, last paragraph/sentence, “Delayed levy projects include Bellevue Airfield Park (planning only), Downtown Park Development...” and suggested that the money be reassigned for projects that are postponed and/or delayed.

Chair Robinson suggested that SPLASH be added to the major long-term initiatives list. In addition, Boardmembers requested an update on the SPLASH project.

Boardmembers suggested that a request be made to City Council to restore the match that was in the previous budget and postponed. Boardmembers concurred with the 2013-2019 CIP Themes:

- Maintain existing infrastructure.
- Restore CIP funding for levy projects.
- Continue ongoing planning.

Motion by Boardmember Powell and second by Boardmember Van Hollebeke to extend the meeting until 8:15 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

10. **BOARDMEMBER COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS:**

A. Network on Aging

Chair Robinson reported that the Bellevue Network on Aging hosted Attorney General Rob McKenna at their March meeting. In addition, the Transportation and Housing Committee is working with the city to evaluate crossing times on city streets to ensure that there is enough time for people of all abilities to cross the streets in downtown Bellevue.

B. Other Groups

No report.

11. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Future agenda items

Boardmember Van Hollebeke requested an update regarding SPLASH. Mr. Foran clarified that no progress has been made on SPLASH due to the large scale financial commitment.

12. **OTHER COMMUNICATIONS:**

A. CIP Project Report

B. Email from Camron Parker (staff) to Surrey Downs Community Club Park Committee

- C. Email from Nancy Kartes (staff) to Judy Metzger/Clearwire
- D. Email from Donney Harrel re Bannerwood Park
- E. Email from Jack Singer re Jen Syrowitz
- F. Email from Scott Fussell re Mercer Slough trails
- G. Email from Laura Balcom re Alex DySard and Jim Bennett

13. **INFORMATION:**

- A. List of upcoming Parks special events
- B. May 8 – next scheduled regular Park Board meeting

14. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Steve Kasner, 1015 – 145th Pl. SE, Bellevue, WA
East Bellevue Community Council

Mr. Kasner noticed that there is not a placeholder in the CIP for the influx of people that will be moving to the Eastgate area.

15. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Boardmember Heath noted that he recently resigned from his Bridle Trails Community Club Parks Committee position.

Motion by Boardmember Van Hollebeke and second by Boardmember Heath to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).